



Bi-monthly community newsletter covering Piopio, Aria and Mahoenui districts

TESSA AND LOTTIE OVERCOME ADVERSITY TO TAKE HOME PRIZES IN CROMWELL

Congratulations to Tessa Bradcock and her pony HD Obsession (Lottie) who recently competed at the 2021 New Zealand Pony Club eventing Championships in Cromwell, as part of the 6-rider Waikato team.

Team members were selected on their individual performances over the eventing session, where Tessa and Lottie had many placings and wins.

Tessa placed 2nd in her dressage test, and the Waikato riders were placed 2nd in the dressage as a team. The Waikato team also won the Best conditioned Horses award.

Tessa and Lottie had to overcome some adversities to even start this event, as the trip down to Cromwell had not been easy for Lottie, who sustained a minor injury. After vet clearance Lottie was cleared to compete. The



cross country phase did not go to plan with 2 refusals however, Tessa being the focused and professional rider she is, remained positive and showed her resilience to finish the course well and then ride a clear show jumping round. Congratulations Tessa, you did us all proud!



PIOPIO BIRDTALK

Editors piopiobirdtalk@gmail.com

Community feedback and articles are welcomed and appreciated. The views published in this publication are not those of the editor but of the contributors. Articles **must** not be longer than 280 words and may have accompanying photos. We reserve the right to edit any material

ADVERTISING CHARGES

- *Local Business: \$35/issue - approximately business card size
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Within our district several defibrillators are on hand in the event of an emergency.

Piopio Township:
Owls Nest and Piopio College.

Surrounding districts:

Mahoenui (Coleman's woolshed)
Aria Cosmopolitan Club, and
Waitanguru Hall also have these on hand.

A free App is available on google Playstore to locate machines throughout New Zealand.



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COMMUNITY MESSAGES

Mahoenui Hall Committee



Notice of Annual General Meeting -Thursday 17th June 2021, 7.30 pm at the Mahoenui Hall. All welcome. If any information needed please contact mahoenuihall@gmail.com

Aria School proudly hosts the
Inter-schools'

"ORIENTEERING DAY"

Friday 18th June 2021
at the St Helen's Domain – Aria

Start Time: Briefing at 11:00 SHARP...
(Please have teams assembled on the tennis court by 10:50 am).

Finish Time: 2:15 pm... (Schools that have to travel the furthest will start first)

Your school is invited to enter this great FUN DAY!

COST... Absolutely Nothing!

Teams of SIX pupils...

GROUPINGS...	DISTANCE...(Approx.)
Year 7 & 8	2.5 km
Year 5 & 6	2.5 km
Year 4	1.8 km

*Adult teams or individuals are welcome to join in!

- > 2 x Teams per AGE GROUP per SCHOOL (you are welcome to enter more – please contact us)
- > Schools can combine to make up numbers
- > Suitable footwear (recommended) and change of clothing (necessary)... metallated tracks, lots of mud and 'other stuff' are in the paddocks, and it usually rains!
- > Please register your school and number of teams entering to Aria School by...Friday 4th June 2021

Piopio Cosmopolitan Club Restaurant

Dine in or takeaway

Open to all, including non members

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 6-8.30pm

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"We must do our part to look after and care for the forest."



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PIOPIO COLLEGE HAPPENINGS

THE COLLEGE participated in the Piopio ANZAC Parade and co-head student Asha Goddard was invited to do a public speech and did so with dignity and mana. Senior staff laid down a wreath on behalf of the school to honour the fallen soldiers. Piopio College also held our own ANZAC assembly the following Wednesday, which was concluded by a haka led by our boys.

Our outside courts have been covered with astroturf and are ready to go for the winter sports season. The gym has also been

completed with a new roof and windows, and the entire building has been waterproofed. Staff and students are excited to be able to use this facility again.

Winter sports are well underway. This is a huge area for our school and needs as much support as possible, so please jump in where you can!

The school lunch project is going to continue for the next three years which is fantastic news.

At the end of March senior students attended an Outdoor Education Camp at Pioi which was enjoyed by everyone involved. And our junior 7's

team represented our kura at the Waitomo 7's competition, winning 4 of their 6 games.

Our Mini Gala was held on the front field in April, which was a fantastic day of fun and very successful. We'd like to thank everyone for supporting our fundraising efforts.

And finally, we'd like to congratulate Sarah Dudin who won the 2-night stay at Ripples Retreat.



PIOPIO COLLEGE

You are invited to join the Piopio College Coffee Club!

By contributing the equivalent of a cup of coffee a week (\$5) or more should you so choose, you will join a growing number of ex pupils, staff, and residents who are supporting this Piopio College Trust Fund initiative.

Your enrolment will enable the Trust to support pupils in their academic, cultural and sporting development and participation by way of scholarships, grants for specialist equipment and course participation (e.g. Spirit of Adventure etc.)

The Trustees are confident that, with the anticipated response, sufficient funds will be available for other "special projects" as well as support for the professional development of staff. As a member of the PPCCC you will receive an annual statement of income and expenditure and details of the recipients of Scholarships and grants awarded. The Trust has embarked on this means of providing ongoing support for the College as a consequence of the miniscule returns that the \$100,000 of Trust funds now receive from our Term Investments.

Our goal is to have a minimum of 30 Piopio College Coffee Club members.

We have enrolled 11 to date.

Our thanks for considering becoming a member! You will be most welcome.

For New Zealand members annual receipts of your contributions will be provided for Taxation Donation rebates.

Enrolment forms are available from the College Office or by emailing either of us. The Trust's bank account is 03-0449-0107019-01 for AP's: Particulars: Your Name / Ref: Coffee Club PS: Contact details of ex AFS /International students/staff would be appreciated.

John Carter
Chairman, Piopio College Trust Board
cartdke@xtra.co.nz
Brian Tegg
Barista
brimar4042@outlook.com



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM
Asha Goddard with Te Kuiti High School student Sativa Hetet at the Piopio Anzac Parade

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please enrol me as a member of the Piopio College Coffee Club. I would like to contribute the equivalent of:

1 cup (\$5/week) 2 cups (\$10/week) _____ cups/week

Payment will be made:

weekly fortnightly monthly annually

Direct Debit to: Piopio College Trust Fund
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Particulars: Your Name / Ref: Coffee Club

Scan and return registration form to
brimar4042@outlook.com or post to:
B Tegg, C/- 1 Colquhoun St, Glenross, Dunedin 9011

George Fleming

12th of May 2021. Much loved husband of June, Daddy of Sheila, Anaru and Hamish, Grandad of all his mokopuna.

Great friend of all in Piopio and surrounding districts.

Committee member since 2003

Vice President since 2008

Of the passing of George in May, the Piopio Cosmopolitan Club and it's members would like to express their condolences to the family.

George was always involved in the sports and social side of the club and did hundreds of raffles.

George was always the man who knew when the carpark needed grading or chairs needed recovering. He was the person at last minute you could depend on to open the club for deliveries.

George always helped out on big nights by doing dishes and collecting empties.

Thank you George for your sense of humour you brought to the club.

George wasn't the biggest man but had the biggest heart.



The Latest Surplus: The Piopio Community Fruit & Veg Stand



As we head into winter it's good to see contributions to Piopio's Community Fruit & Veg Stand holding up and increasing, in fact. Heaps of feijoas, pots of homemade jams and lemon honey, pumpkins, chiles, and other winter veggies have started to appear. For those lemon lovers citrus cannot be too far away.

Your response to my recent call for contributions has been much appreciated. For most people it's

about getting into (and staying in) the habit of dropping things by when you have surplus fruit or veg, and lockdown got us all out of our regular routines. Contributions continue to come in and go out of the stand quickly.

Our wonderful, generous jam makers crank up their efforts over winter, so small, clean jars left up top would be put to use. We're good on ice cream containers, plant pots

and egg cartons for the foreseeable future. When that changes I will let people know.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or issues. I do try to post daily with what's on offer in the morning on the stand's FB page and Instagram feed but sometimes, yes, even I drop the ball!

Karen Barrett
stuanfarm@gmail.com
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PIPIO PRIMARY SCHOOL

Piopio Primary School Board Report

Welcome back to school everyone, term Two is in full swing. A huge welcome to all those kids and parent's that are new to the school. It is great to see you and I am sure you will have a good time at Piopio Primary.

Remember the more you put in the more you will get out.

I am sure you have all noticed the awesome new junior playground that was erected during the school holidays. A huge thankyou goes to the PTA and in particular Michelle Carter and Lisa Lyford for making it happen. It has been a long journey and a labour of love for those two.

We have started the term with the school cross country which was a huge success. The kids all seemed to enjoy themselves and put in a huge amount of

effort. I was lucky enough to attend the interschool cross country and it was great to see so many Piopio kids giving it their all, with

most in the top half of the results, which was awesome.

We are pleased to be welcoming Vicky Jenkinson who will be starting in term 3 to take over the teaching of the room 7 class. We look forward to welcoming her into the Piopio Primary teaching team. The planning for the major upgrade of the senior classroom block is progressing well with tenders having been submitted and a builder chosen. We have had to scale back our wish list to fit within budget as building prices have skyrocketed. Hopefully, we will have a start date soon.

Healthy lunches are in full swing and being liked by most. It is important to remember that we are all very new to this and that feedback is always welcomed. Sheryl is always looking at ways to improve the offering. Just remember to keep it positive and to

encourage your kids to have a try, you never know they might just like it.

On a sad note, we will be farewelling Ron at the end of this term. Although it only feels like only yesterday, we welcomed him, it will be almost two years since he began with us, and what a rocky two years it has been. With Covid distance learning, and in and out of lockdowns, Ron has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to streamline the school's policies and procedures, bringing them all online. He has also implemented some new changes within the school. All of which will stand us in good stead for the future. We wish him well on his next life adventure, whatever that may be.

We have started the recruitment process and are looking forward to what the future may hold. We will keep you all updated along the way.

Thanks again to all the parents and helpers the school is only as good as its community. So remember if you do have time get involved and help where possible. Any help is always really appreciated. Yours sincerely

Board Chair Mat Sherriff

Piopio Primary School Cross Country

Our cross country was held on Friday 14th of May. It was a great day and the students all ran super well! Enjoy the poems written by two of our year 2 students.

Cross country.
Frosty, cold.
Passing, supporting, shivering.
Tough day running.
Go go go!

By Lucas Parkes. 6 years old.



Cross country.
Sunny, cool.
Running, freezing, cheering.
I was really proud.
Go go go!!!

By Jordi MacLachlan. 6 years old.

Noteworthy News

Aria Primary School

Term 2 2021



Aria School Presents – “Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies”.

Journey into the depths of Sherwood Forest and discover the hilarious truth behind the legend of Robin Hood. Follow the most outrageous outlaws in history on their side-splitting, action-packed adventure to defeat the dastardly Sheriff, storm Nottingham Castle, rescue Maid Marion and overthrow King John - all without laddering their tights!

Mark the date for Aria School’s annual production on your calendar now! Two performances -Matinee at 11am and evening at 7pm on Thursday 26th August in the Aria Hall.

All welcome! Please contact the school office for further details or to book a front row seat

Orienteering Challenge 2021

On Thursday 19th June, starting at 11am sharp, our annual interschool Orienteering event will be held at the Aria Domain. This year we anticipate in excess of 350 primary age students

from year 4-8 to be competing.

As a special CHALLENGE this year we are planning an adult (year 9+) event as we know you would all just love to get out there in the mud and show those young ones how it’s done!! Come on; phone the school now to register your team of 6 or you can compete as an individual! See you there!

Science Celebration

Aria School again hosts this year’s annual science celebration at the Aria Hall on July 7th. Many local schools will have entries displayed so please drop in on Wednesday morning to see the amazing scientific explorations that our students have undertaken over this term.

All entries will be judged on Tuesday 6th and the Prizegiving will take place at 12 noon on Wednesday 7th.

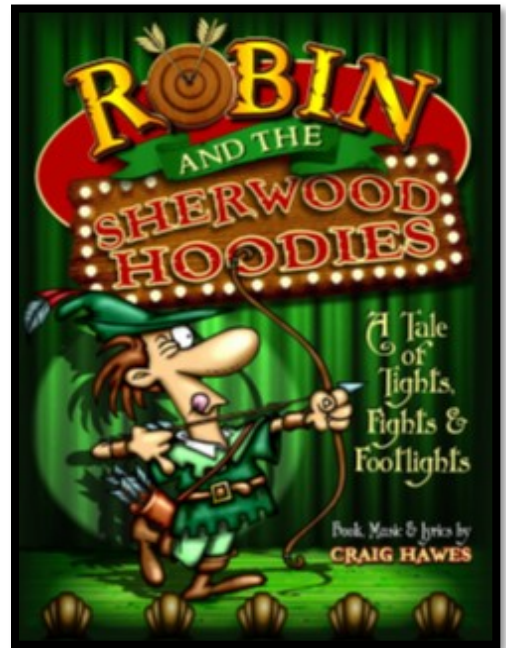
World Vision 20 Hour Famine Sleepover – Our annual 20 Hour Famine sleepover is scheduled for mid

June and all participating students are currently seeking sponsorship for this most worthy cause. Please generously support our students to **raise funds** for vulnerable children around the **world**.

Covid 19, a severe drought, a reliance on agriculture and a food crisis have put millions of people at risk of starvation.

If you would like to help or join us please contact the school office.

Pam Voyce



Waxing, brow and eye treatments, spray tan, facials, make up and gift cards are available- a great gift idea!

Phone 0210424493 or you can find her on Facebook

Barbara Kuriger

MP for Taranaki-King Country

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06 756 6032
Kuriger.Inglewood@
parliament.govt.nz

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DEALER OF THE YEAR FOR POWER FARMING

Power Farming Te Awamutu has once again been nominated for Dealer of the Year. Although we have previously won the title 5 times, 2020 was not to be our year and we came away with the Silver Award. The award is measured on Key Performance Indicators such as, stock levels, loan balances, sales volume, positive customer feedback and service and parts turn around.

“It’s a team effort to achieve at such a high level and is a combination of factors including experience, dedication and commitment. Some of our staff have been with the company for over 20 years and several others have done well over 10 years. That’s a huge amount of knowledge and experience,” says Murray. In receiving the award, Murray said “I’d like to sincerely thank our customers who continue to put faith in us for their



machinery requirements and to our staff, who continue to go the extra mile, especially in the unusual and trying times of Covid lockdown last year.

Power Farming Te Awamutu is a joint venture between local owner/operators Murray and Sonya Barclay and the Power Farming Group of Companies. Power Farming Te Awamutu is one of 17 retail branches nationwide. The company services the needs of farmers and contractors throughout the

Waikato and King Country with such internationally recognisable tractor and farm machinery brands as Deutz-Fahr, Kioti, McHale, Kverneland, Merlo, Taarup alongside a host of other recognised names.

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SEPTEMBER 2021

Raupuha Stud
& Native Nursery

WEIGH IN: 12 - 3pm SATURDAY 4th
@ **THE MAHOENUI HALL**
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2nd BEST TUSKS Bevege Contracting	\$200
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Kids critters competition Gold coin - Juniors section [15 years & Under]	
Heaviest POSSUM	Kindly sponsored by Piopio Mechanical <i>Seriously Outdoors</i> Taumarunui DOC Taumarunui DOC Te Kuiti Tarangower Stud K & T Alcock
HEAVIEST RABBIT/ HARE	
HEAVIEST TURKEY	
Best Measured GOAT HORNS (head only)	

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King Country



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Lynette Adams
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The modem is free with the first 30GB free, then \$5 for 30GB. They can top up 5 times a month if required and receive 150GB.

If there is a group of people interested, eg playgroup, exercise group etc (minimum of 3 people) I have funding from Lottery to come to your group out in Piopio.

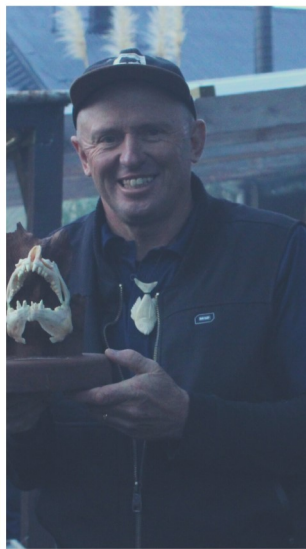
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TRAVEL BROKERS TE KUITI

Welcome to The Travel Brokers Te Kuiti, operating under Helloworld NZ. I'm LOVING working from home, looking out my office window over paddocks, trees and sheep – very soothing to the soul.

The pace hasn't slowed down as our scaffolding business of 6 years is extremely busy. I'm more hands on with the scaffolding business now that Les has started his scanning season.

Back to travel, travellers to Australia are visiting families rather than holidaying. Rarotonga is currently slow but school holiday enquiries are picking up with people looking for the sun and warmth during our Winter. New Zealanders are being cautious and rightly so. I now spend the same amount of time checking a country's entry requirements as the actual booking.

There are some fantastic domestic itineraries out and I also have access to vehicle and motorhome hire.

My contact details are:

lorrene@ttb.co.nz
OR 027 333 8531

KCRC MARCH UPDATE



King Country River Care

Farmers taking charge of improving the environment together with the community

Budgeting - develop your own

The last month has been busy with meetings and workshops – farmers have got involved with Farm Planning, Nutrient Budgeting, Stream Health Assessments and Google Earth Pro mapping. We have been presenting results of our first round of water quality and eDNA testing and in May collecting samples for the second round of testing.

Water quality results were good everywhere we tested in February, there were very few sites showing any issues which is great news.

As we collect samples quarterly it will be interesting to see how higher rainfall and surface water influences the results. Please get in touch if you would like to know more and have not caught up with the results for your sub-catchment group.

Our KCRC Kick Start fencing and planting funding is looking for final applications for planting this winter, these are due on 31 May.

Applications for works and planting to be completed in 2022 are due by 30 September. If you are interested, please get in touch and get your application in so you don't miss out. So far, we have provided funding for over 12 hectares to be planted with 15,000 natives and over 16 km of fencing, this is just a start, and we are looking forward to funding a lot more work over the next 2 years. This funding covers planting and fencing identified in your Farm Environment Plan and includes riparian areas and erodible land.

Events coming up....

May 31st - Mangaokewa & Upper Mokau/Mangapehi SC groups (6.30pm, Panorama, Te Kuiti) - plan for 2021 & catch up with Merrin Whatley, freshwater scientist, on KCRC & WRC water results.

May 31st - KCRC Ladies Lunch – 11am Night Owl, Piopio – Registration essential

June 1st - Mapiu/Mapara SC group catch up with Merrin Whatley

3rd – B+LNZ Winter Grazing workshop; Mokauiti

4th – Mid Mokau & Mangaotaki/Mairoa SC group catch up on farm (N&J Collins) – planting natives, plant & site selection; what's worked & what hasn't.

8th - Mokauiti/Aria SC group catch up on farm (D & Z Cowins) - planting natives, plant & site selection; what's worked & what hasn't.

9th - Matt Pickering (Coach Approach) - Communication refresher

3rd & 10th June - Nutrient

OverseerFM file workshops

10th June – Farm Planning

BLNZ Workshop #2

24th June – B+LNZ Intro to Farm Planning workshop #1

If you have not started your Farm Plan yet this one's for you. Brand new B+LNZ Farm Planning resource and workshop facilitated by Rob Macnab. Starting your Farm Plan puts you ahead of regulatory requirements and allows you to access funding from KCRC for fencing & planting projects on farm.

Drop-in sessions with a KCRC coordinator will continue at the Night Owl in Piopio, 3-5pm on Tuesday afternoons.

Please get in touch if there's something else you want to know about or think KCRC could be doing. Please register your interest for any events as spaces are limited.

Anna Nelson;
KCRC Coordinator
0274900501, 8777744,
kcrivercare@gmail.com

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Piopio and Districts Museum Trust

The trustees of the above facility are continuing to promote this valuable community asset which the

whole district can be proud of. We strongly urge all local residents to make the effort to visit the museum and view the variety of exhibits pertaining to yesteryear and so pay homage to the pioneers who laid the foundation of our world today. We would like to thank the public for their generous response to our appeal for funds which we undertook last year. We carry out these appeals from time to time to keep our funds at a reasonable

balance to be able to keep the maintenance up to a prudent level. Accordingly we have just had local painters carry out some painting to keep things up to date on the blacksmith's shop and Bill's house. We would like more people to take an interest in becoming involved in the running of the museum. For more information contact

Mark Verry 8778842
Suzanne Downey 8778855

GARDEN RAMBLE

UPDATE.... June's meeting will be held a week earlier on the 10th due to Fieldays the following Thursday. We will be going to the Taitua Arboretum in Hamilton. July's meeting is the Mid Winter lunch at the Riverside Lodge in Te Kuiti on the 15th.

Gillian



24hr Gym & Fitness Centre

Piopio Recreation Centre, located at entrance to Piopio College

Open to community, contact Kimberley on 0272101860 for more details

PIOPIO LIONS CLUB

Is this a job for you or your club or organisation???

As we have lost our previous caterer Sheryl Johnson, who is now doing the school lunches, the Lions Club are looking for someone to do the meals for their monthly dinner meetings.

The meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of every month at the Senior Citizens Hall. We are looking for someone to prepare a basic meat and three veg meal and perhaps a desert or slice for 15 – 20 people.

If this is a job for you please contact Ross Smith 0272851703 or Gavin Todd 021 087 00545.



Happy 70th Birthday to Peter Voyce, who recently celebrated with family and friends at The Night Owl on May 15th.



Greetings from the Piopio Volunteer Fire Brigade

With winter pretty much here, it's a good time to share some fire safety tips to help keep your family safe and warm. Remember to clean chimneys and flues before your first fire for the season. Always use a fireguard or spark guard with open fires, and dispose of ashes safely. Put them in a metal bucket with a lid, then thoroughly douse with water. Ashes can stay hot enough to start a fire for up to five days. Always keep furniture, curtains, clothes and children at least one metre away from heaters and fireplaces, and remember that working smoke alarms save lives. FENZ recommends long-life photoelectric smoke alarms. Regular testing and cleaning will keep your smoke alarms in working order. Keep them clean and free from dust and spider webs by using a vacuum cleaner.

The Brigade has had a busy year with records showing that we were turned out to 60 plus calls for the year ending 31st March. We attended

36 calls as 1st arriving appliance. Of those we had 1 structure fire, 4 vegetation fires, 1 other fire, 12 medical, 2 special services, 2 false alarms, and 14 Motor Vehicle Accidents. With medical calls featuring a lot higher and MVA's down on last year, there was a noticeable change in our workload. Some of this was likely to be a result of the Covid-19 lockdown and higher alert levels when our roads were so quiet.

We have two new members – Heath Barnsdall, and Tom Blakeway. Both have completed their MVA training, and Heath has just completed the 7 day recruit course and is now a B.A. qualified firefighter. Anson Clapcott and Sandy Pari gained the rank of Senior Firefighter, and along with SFF Ryan Todd, are now working on Officer pre-course. QFF Rowan Moorehouse is registered on SFF course in July, with Steve Brough and Daryl Henwood working through the SFF pre-course books. Dion Adams, Josh Henderson, and Adrian Omelvena are all booked on QFF course in September. So we are progressing well with our plans to fill Station Officer and DCFO positions. Good work team.

We are in the early stages of planning to extend our concrete car park/training area to allow us to do more MVA training on station, and already have some funds set aside.

The Brigade would like to take this opportunity to thank the following for their donations made in the last 12 months. Russell and Mavis Proffit, Piopio Op Shop, the Dempchy family, Mary Tapu, Tekuiti Beef Workers, Owen Watson, Aria School, John and Kirsty Reeves, and Clapcott Farms.

The Wiatomo District is now in an open fire season as of 12th March. This means that you don't need to apply for a fire permit if you want to light an open air fire. However, it is important anyone planning on lighting an open air fire thinks carefully about the conditions. If you are unsure, please go to www.checkitsalright.nz for guidance.

Stay safe, and don't hesitate to contact anyone of our members for Fire Safety Advice.

Cheers

PPVFB

The Piopio Community Pool

2020/2021 kicked off to a great start as the big pool was painted on time to allow the pool to open on schedule. Piopio College, Primary and the Swimming club all used the pool and it was great to read about this in the last issue of the bird talk.

This season the pool was open 42 days and hosted 1116 swimmers. Thank you to those groups/whanau who organized their parties prior to coming down for a swim. Our local life guard, Reade Blakeman did a fantastic job ensuring everyone was following the rules and

having fun.

For those that have enquired, regretfully due to health and safety regulations, the Pool's Trust **cannot** issue keys to provide access to swimmers outside of the opening times. Please enjoy the swimming lanes provided during the pools opening hours.

The sponsorship brick wall outside the changing rooms is filling up fast, we plan to do the next brick print run before the start of next season so they can be fitted. If you would like to support our local pools through this buy a brick initiative please contact the Pool Trust (Sheryl Johnson). \$200 per brick and names will

be up on the wall prior to the pool opening next season.

Both pools are well loved and thank you to everybody who supports our facilities.

Any local persons who are interested in helping to maintain the pools during our summer period are encouraged to contact Shaun Carter. Paid positions are available.

Regards

The Piopio Pools Committee



Strong Pony Club Season sees Club in good Stead

Te Kuiti and Districts Pony Club has enjoyed another successful season.

Our riders have attended fun, informative and structured rallies. We have riders at all levels enjoying different aspects of equestrian sport, including dressage, showjumping, cross country, games and a Tetrathlon. Our riders have learnt to care for the welfare of their mounts and have shown respect to other riders. All our members have had the opportunity to learn, to make new friends and to be part of a very supportive community.

We have welcomed new families to the club. And it's been rewarding to see these young riders having fun at rallies and becoming more competent throughout the Pony Club season.

Last year we organised practice showjumping days through the winter. These were successful fundraisers for the club as well as a good opportunity for riders in our community to have a fun day. A big thanks to Maree Bradcock for organizing these days.

In October we organised a one day event at the Piopio Domain. This was another very successful fundraiser, thank you to Anna Nelson and the Harris family for all they do to keep this event running at such a high standard. This event attracts many local riders and outside riders from around the Waikato and Taranaki.

This season our Club has worked hard to ensure the current facilities are kept in good working order. A new manure bin was installed next to the arena, to ensure the yards and arena are kept clean and tidy. A new arena groomer has been purchased and can be used by our members to maintain the arena surface in optimal condition before events.

We have planted trees on the bank of the river to stabilize the river bank and prevent any further erosion.

Our next project is the installation of a horse measuring stand at the Piopio Domain. A big thank you to the Piopio Charitable Trust for supporting this project. Thank you also to Jacky Fitzgerald for the time and effort you have put in to help managing this.

Congratulations to Tessa Bradcock for representing the Waikato Team at the New Zealand Pony Club Champs this year. Tessa has worked hard throughout the season to be consistently competing at such a high level.

Congratulations to our Waikato Eventing Leaderboard placegetters, Tessa Bradcock 1st and Alice Buckley 3rd in training (95cm) Molly Maclachlan 3rd in Pre - training (80cm class) and Kaitlyn McNamee 4th in Intro (65cm class).

For a small club we have a large proportion of riders competing successfully at events around the Waikato. Our riders have demonstrated great sportsmanship, been gracious winners and we are proud to have them representing our Club.

A BIG thank you to all our supporters within the community, without you our club wouldn't be the success it is today.

Olivia Buckley

President

Te Kuiti and Districts Pony Club

Timberlands team 2021



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Winter of 1963

We can't confirm any publication details but here is a sneak peek from Peter Holbrook's upcoming memoir written with Sigrid Christiansen

In 1963 I sailed back to England to see my family. We travelled via Suez, seeing the pyramids in Egypt and watching elephants working in a timber yard in Sri Lanka.

Finally, we arrived at Southampton. The *Canberra* sailed into what was becoming one of Britain's worst winters in 200 years. Soon everything froze: snowdrifts were blocking roads and railways; the newspapers reported that farm animals died because farmers couldn't get to them. Even the sea froze in places.

Straight away I hopped on the train to Nuneaton, seeing for the first time Mother's new house in town, where she'd moved with Gran after leaving the Watling St. It was the first of our family homes to have a proper inside bathroom; previously we'd had a bath off the kitchen filled with a copper.

A day after arriving I returned to Southampton to collect my friend Margaret – while the *Canberra* travelled through Suez, she'd sailed via Panama on the *Fair Sky*. Gran and Mother thought it was a silly idea to leave again so quickly.

On the way I visited Dad's cousin Win, who'd been at Dad's funeral, and her husband Bert. The couple owned a boarding house in Vauxhall,

London and I stayed with them for one night before going on to Southampton. They kept an obese terrier and constantly stuffed it with food. 'Give Bobba another biscuit!' Win kept saying to Bert, and he would. The dog was so fat it could hardly breathe or move.

Nothing happened with Margaret in the end; things fizzled out quite quickly. She'd briefly stayed with us in Nuneaton where she got along well with Mother and Gran, but later she'd planned to go back to her family in Newcastle. The icy weather caused problems here too: all the diesel locomotives had stopped running. Luckily there were still older trains operating on some lines so we drove to the station in Birmingham in a hire car. We kissed goodbye on the platform beside the steam engine.

A while later I visited some of my former employers. Their farm pond had frozen over so solidly that the pony could walk over it. Even the milking machine froze and we heated the pipes up with a blow lamp to get them going.

My time in England was to be a working holiday. Farming friends gave me a temporary job plucking Christmas turkeys; after that, the only employment available in the bad weather was sorting coal for the Nuneaton Co-operative Society: separating big lumps from small lumps. In the sixties most English townspeople heated their homes with coal fires, so there was a big industry around it. Soon my job description changed a little – my employers put me on the truck, taking four tonne of coal around Nuneaton's streets. I held that job until the weather warmed up – which wasn't until March. They didn't want so many coal-men after that.

After scanning the *Nuneaton Daily Tribune* for work I started off freelance again, doing scrap iron work and building fences for people, small private jobs, working from a little Morris van which cost 12 pounds.

Mother still had my whippet, Fly, so I bred a litter of six or seven pups from her. That

wasn't a thoughtful idea, because I was off fencing and left Mother to look after them. Eventually we sold the pups and got a bit of money.

At home Gran asked me many questions about New Zealand – she really took an interest because of her own travels when she was younger. Gran asked me about Māori: 'Have you learned the language yet?' because she'd learned Hindi when she'd been in India. She was far more inquisitive than most English people and liked being able to know what was going on.

Gran couldn't accept that in New Zealand I didn't wear a solar topee – in her time many English believed these insulated hats were the only reason they didn't get heatstroke. I'd never even seen one, let alone worn it. 'But you *have* to wear them,' she insisted.

Unfortunately it was becoming harder to speak with her. Hearing aids back then were primitive and she had to endlessly take hers out and fiddle with them, trying to hear better. She found deafness very challenging.

But she still had her enjoyments. When Gran watched TV she loved to gleefully snap about women's behaviour and dress. 1963 saw a big political scandal in England, the Profumo Affair – and Gran's outrage fell exclusively on the young woman, and others like her. 'These bad girls are corrupting the politicians,' she said. Her other bugbear was the Cancan, which she would have liked banned. 'I don't like the way those girls lift their frocks up,' she grumbled.

My sister Mary returned briefly from America that Christmas, but she didn't enjoy England at all. As always her relationship with Gran was tense, and all she wanted to do was get back. She talked about her life in Chicago a lot, the parties and her friends.

That was hard on Mother, who said with emotion in her voice that she envied people whose sons and daughters settled nearby. 'Why do my children want to go away? Why can't they be like everyone else's who just live in the next street?'

Peter doing scrap metal work 1960



COMMUNITY SERVICES & BUSINESSES

LOCAL FACILITIES

Aria Cosmopolitan Club
(07) 8777812

Cloverleaf Café
(07) 8778368

Night Owl Bar and Eatery
(07) 8778769
www.theowlsnest.co.nz
E: theowlsnest@xtra.co.nz

Fat Pigeon Café
(07) 8778822

Piopio Cosmopolitan Club
(07) 8778204

Piopio Berry Orchard
(07) 8778490

Oily Rag Garage and Tyre Service (07) 8778159

Piopio Dental
Dr Kim Tatham (07) 8778864
smilingkiwi@piopiodental.co.nz

Carley Jane Beauty
M: 0210424493

King Country Chiropractic
Dr Scott Mouatt (07) 8737376
M: 0273301339
E: kcchiro@xtra.co.nz

Recreation Centre
Kimberley Cody (07) 8778700
M: 0272101860

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Aria Playcentre
Hannah Bodger-Kearns
(07) 8777898

Aria Toy Library
Librarian: Karen Jones
M: 0210385153
E: ariatoylibrary@gmail.com

Aria Primary School
(07) 8777857

Curious Keas Preschool
Stephanie Brough (07) 8778224

Kohanga Piopio
Kristen Pari (07) 8778185

Mainly Music
All Saints Church, Moa Street
Music and movement for children 0-5yrs & caregivers.
Thursdays @ 10am
Alison Singleton (07) 8778840

Piopio Playcentre
Nicola Kloeten
M: 0276960598

Piopio Primary School
(07) 8778103

Piopio College (07)8778173
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COMMUNITY

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www.crimestoppers-nz.org

Piopio College Community Library (07) 8778173
E: library@piopio.school.nz
18 Aria Road

Senior Citizen's Organisation
Meetings first Tuesday every month, 10am All welcome.
Wendy Weinberg (07) 8778686

Seniors' Exercise Classes
Wendy Weinberg (07) 8778686

Housie Thursdays
1pm Senior Citizen's Room
Everyone's welcome
Shirley Bardsley (07) 8778725

Justice of Peace
Vikki Hall (07) 8778058
Clive Fredericks (07) 8778048

Marriage Celebrant

Clive Fredericks
M: 0272803867
Heidi Preston
0276791931

Piopio Garden Circle
Visits are 3rd Thursday of every month except January & August
Gillian Hooper (07) 8787880
M: 0273459603

Piopio Lions Club
Stephen Cooper (07) 8778159
Gavin Todd (07) 8777700 or
Ken Perry (07) 8778035

Piopio Memorial Hall
Book venue through Waitomo District Council on
(07) 8780800 or
info@waitomo.govt.nz

- Bond 50% of hire fee
- Full Day hire 8am-8am \$204.00
- Rental per hour (max 4 hours) \$36.00
- Audio Equipment - Hire Fee \$66.00 per day

Crockery Hire is booked and paid for through the Piopio Hall Committee.
Phone Vikki 0275095195 or Emma 0273687922

- Table \$10 per table
 - Chairs \$2 per chair
 - Wine flutes/glasses 50c per glass
 - Tumblers 50c per glass
 - Place settings \$2 per setting includes (dinner, side and dessert plate, mug, cutlery)
 - Capacity 200 people
- Piopio/Paearuhe Retirement**

Village
Jenny Brodie (07) 8778033

All Saints Church
Co-operating Parish of Piopio, Aria & Mokau. Main Road, Piopio. Worship service 10am
Reverend Jekheli Singh
(07) 8788026

Laver Marine
(07) 8778484
M: 0211054737

Opportunity Shop/Mustard Seed
Colleen Strahan (07) 8787918

Community Fruit & Vege Stand
Karen Barret (07) 8778012
E: struanfarm@gmail.com

The Old Piopio Post Office Art Gallery
M: 0224370789

Waitanguru Rural Women
Liz Morgan 0272846653

Mahoeuni
Lynette Adams
E: lynadams@xtra.co.nz

ACTIVITIES and ATTRACTIONS

Piopio and Districts Museum
Mark Verry (07) 8778842
Key available from Piopio Superette

Piopio Market Day
3rd Sunday of each month
Allison Shardlow 0273039582

Piopio POP (Tui Park)
Waitomo District Council
(07) 8780800

Key for toilet available from the Cloverleaf tearooms or Snow Nicol

SPORTS and RECREATION

Aria Squash Club
President Mark Anderson
(07) 8778950
Secretary Lee Alcock
E: ariasquash@gmail.com

Light Horse Club
President Helen Potter
E: helen.neilpotter@gmail.com

Line Dancing Club
Linda Oliver (07) 8778313

Piopio-Aria Golf Club
Hamish Roach
M: 0275785905

Piopio Bowling Club
Nigel 0272550898 or Wendy on (07) 8778686

Piopio Community Sports (Rukuhia Domain)
Tony Schrafft
Tony.schrafft@police.govt.nz

Piopio Rugby Club
President Peter Hurley
(07) 8777577
Secretary Emma-Jane McKinney (07) 8778415

Piopio Swimming Club
Kate Carter
M: 0212645771
E: katemcdtiaans@hotmail.com

Pony Club
President Olivia Buckley
Secretary Amanda MacLachlan
(07) 8787182

Tennis Club
Reon Verry (07) 8788678

King Country Hunt Club
President Joy Hurley
(07) 8777577

Trail Bikes and Moto Cross Track
Darren Lupton (07) 8778054

Waitomo Ski Club
Kim Tatham
(07) 8778820

Waitomo Aero Club
Pete Voyce (07) 8778254
John Carter (07) 8778290



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